

have. We need to emphasize our mission. We need to be taught how to carry out our divine and God-given mission.

## Home Circle

### A WOMAN'S PRAYER

O, Lord, who knowest every need of mine,  
Help me to bear each cross, and not repine;  
Grant me fresh courage every day,  
Help me to do my work alway  
Without complaint!

O, Lord, Thou knowest well how dark the way,  
Guide Thou my footsteps, lest they stray;  
Give me fresh faith for every hour,  
Lest I should ever doubt Thy power,  
And make complaint!

Give me a heart, O Lord, strong to endure,  
Help me to keep it simple, pure;  
Make me unselfish, helpful, true  
In every act, whate'er I do,  
And keep content!

Help me to do my woman's share,  
Make me courageous, strong to bear  
Sunshine or shadow in my life;  
Sustain me in the daily strife  
To keep content!

—Ladies' Home Journal.

### YOUTHFUL CHIVALRY

An exchange tells the following story of an Edinburg street waif:

There was a Christmas treat given to poor children at a mission hall, and hundreds of little ones were assembled at the doors in advance of the hour of admittance, many of them barefoot.

Among the number was a sweet faced little girl, who seemed less hardened than most to the cold, for she shivered in her poor jacket and danced from one foot to the other on the cold, hard stones. A boy not much older watched this performance for a few minutes, and then with a sudden impulse of protection took off his cap, put it down before her, and said:

"Ye maun stand on that."

### A TRUE PHILANTHROPIST

A ragged woman was crossing the corner of a public park in London where the children of the poor are accustomed to play, many of them barefoot. A burly policeman stationed on the corner watched the woman suspiciously. Half way across, so the story goes, she stooped and picked up something which she hid in her apron. With a gruff voice and threatening manner he demanded:

"What are you carrying off in your apron?" The woman seemed embarrassed and refused to answer. Thereupon the officer of the law, thinking that she had doubtless picked up a pocket-book, which she was trying to make way with, threatened to arrest her unless she told him at once what she had in her apron.

At this the woman reluctantly unfolded her apron and disclosed a handful of broken glass. In stupid wonderment, the policeman asked:

"What do you want with that stuff?"

A flush passed over the woman's face, then she answered simply:

"If you please, sir, I just thought I'd like to take it out of the way of the children's feet."

Blessings on the kind-hearted caretaker who was so thoughtful of the children's needs and the children's feet! And should not we imitate so good an example, and take out of the path of the little ones anything which can wound them, injure them, or cause them to stumble?

### HUNGRY FOR A HAND-SHAKE

Ram's Horn.

He was sitting in a park. He looked down-hearted and despondent. His clothes were dusty, but not ragged. There was a look of despair on his boyish face—almost a look of desperation. Some one noticing his despondent look, sat down by him, saying:

"I judge you are a stranger in the city; I want to shake hands with you."

A bright look came into the young man's face and he eagerly held out his hand.

"Oh," he said, "I am so hungry for a hand-shake! I left my home about a week ago with the prayers and best wishes of my friends. Times were hard, and it seemed necessary for me to go into the world to make a living for myself. I supposed there was lots of work for me in this city, but I don't think there is anything, and I am discouraged."

He bit his lip hard as he said this, and his mouth quivered.

"I will try again," he went on to say, "since some one cares enough for me to shake hands with me."

That hand-shake was the beginning of his success. Down-hearted and discouraged before, feeling that there was no one who cared for him in a great city, his heart was made glad by that simple thing, a hand-shake, and he took courage and soon found employment.

### SLEEP

The Advance.

Tho God may not now use dreams as media for conveying authoritative revelations, He does still convey special gifts to His children in sleep. There is deep significance in the opening lines of that little prayer,

"Now I lay me down to sleep,  
I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to keep."

He does more than just to keep our souls while we sleep. Even that would be much, for the consciousness might care for our souls during our waking hours, in a poor way, what or who—apart from God—could shepherd our souls during the hours when we go down into the dark valley of sleep? In sleep God not only keeps the soul, but He

bathes it; He refreshes it; He straightens out our tangled thoughts and feelings; he remakes the world for us morning by morning by renewing our strength as the eagle's night by night; indeed, there are cases on record of penitent sinners who have retired to rest with a prayer for pardon on their lips, to find, like the penitent ancient mariners, that they died in sleep and became blessed ghosts—died to sin during sleep, and awoke to find themselves blessed spirits, tho still in the flesh.

Did you never retire to rest, not only weary in body, but also distressed in mind and heart, feeling, perhaps, that life was not worth living, to wake up in morning and find that during the night God had benevolently burglarized your soul and stolen away your cares; had buried your dead hopes out of your sight, giving you better ones; and had in some way, during the night, returned the harp of life, so that the morning music was sweet to your soul?

"The physical effect of a few hours of rest," do you say? More than that. Until some one shall offer a better theory let the Christian contend that sleep is God's Pandora box—very different from the one which the luckless Epimethius received from the gods of Olympus—a box full of good things for the body and soul, into which God puts man night after night, that he may be refreshed to meet the duties and responsibilities of each new day.

## Our Young People

### GO OR SEND.—Acts 16:1-10

Oct. 23—A Missionary Topic.

Again we come to a missionary topic and have our minds turned to the great mission of the evangelization of the world. No one can be a true Christian without desiring the universal dominion of the kingdom of God. But to really desire a thing implies working to secure it and it is mockery for us to pray, "Thy kingdom come" and then do little toward winning souls ourselves and less toward helping others to go. The Christian who really loves his Master will share his spirit of unselfish service. Not all of us can go to foreign lands but we all can go to the highways and hedges of our own. Not all of us can give great donations to the cause but we all can consecrate all that we have to the best use and turn the small coins into missionaries and have them spread the gospel by means of tracts or in other ways. The command to spread the gospel is individual and the promise following it, Matt. 28:20, is inseparable from it. The harvest is ripe; the means are ours; God is with us; let us go while we can and send all we can that we may save all we can.

1. A personal duty, "Go ye," Matt. 28:19; Matt. 21:28.

2. A personal reward, "Come ye," Matt. 25:40.

### SEND

Examples of delegated personal work

3. Philip, Acts 8:26-30.
4. The healed demoniac, Mark 5:19.
5. The seventy, Luke 10:1.

### WHERE TO GO

6. To the nearest place, Matt. 10:5, 6.
7. To needy places, Matt. 22:9.
8. Where Christ is not known, Rom. 15:20.